

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:
Harold O. Treece

Serial No.: 09/970,432

Filed: October 3, 2001

For: Universal Cementing Plug

§
§
§
§
§
§
§
§

Group Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: Christopher J. Novosad

Confirmation No.: 4315

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION
BY THE INVENTOR**

I hereby declare that my residence, mailing address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe to be the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is described and claimed in this patent application Serial No. 09/970,432, as well as U.S. application Serial No. 10/307,113, filed April 10, 2003, now abandoned, copending U.S. continuing application Serial No. 10/930,058, filed August 30, 2004, and copending divisional application Serial No. 11/267,892, filed November 4, 2005.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified applications, including all amendments thereto.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described below.

Patentee erred in not presenting claims during the prosecution of the patent which were directed to the subject matter now being claimed in the claims now being presented (other than patent claims 1-51) up to and including the filing of this declaration, which error occurred without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

New independent claim 92 differs from claims 1 – 51 by reciting:

A method for wiping the inner surface of a casing comprising:
providing a plug in the casing having at least two axially-spaced and overlapping wipers to engage and wipe the inner surface;
applying pressure from one end of the casing to move the plug within the casing; and
providing an insert across a central opening in the plug for closure thereof, wherein the insert is a shearable member adapted for shearing and opening the central opening when a predetermined pressure is applied across the shearable member or a substantially non-shearable member adapted for substantially permanent closure of the central opening.

New independent claim 93 differs from claims 1 – 51 by reciting:

A method for wiping the inner surface of a casing comprising:
providing a plug in the casing having at least two axially-spaced and overlapping wipers to engage and wipe the inner surface;
applying pressure from one end of the casing to move the plug within the casing; providing an additional plug in the casing having at least two axially-spaced and overlapping wipers to engage and wipe the inner surface; and applying pressure from one end of the casing to move the additional plug within the casing.

New independent claim 98 differs from claims 1 – 51 by reciting:

A method for cementing a casing containing drilling mud in a well comprising:
introducing a first plug into one end of the casing;
introducing cement into the one end of the casing to force the first plug downwardly in the casing to displace the mud from the casing;
providing at least two axially-spaced wipers on the first plug so that, as the plug passes downwardly in the casing, it wipes the inner surface of the casing of any accumulated mud;
terminating the step of introducing the cement into the casing;

introducing a second plug into the casing end;
forcing the second plug downwardly through the casing so that it forces the cement and the first plug downwardly in the casing;
establishing a differential pressure across the first plug to open the first plug and allow the cement to pass through the first plug and exit the other end of the casing; and
providing at least two axially spaced wipers on the second plug so that as the second plug passes downwardly in the casing, it wipes the inner surface of the casing of any accumulated cement; and
sizing each wiper so that the wiper of each plug closest to the one end of the casing is overlapped by the other wiper of the same plug.

New independent claim 104 differs from claims 1 – 51 by reciting:

A cementing plug for use in cementing a casing in a well comprising:
a plug having a longitudinal axis;
a first wiper extending radially outwardly from the plug at an acute angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the plug;
a second wiper extending radially outwardly from the plug at an acute angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the plug and disposed in an axially spaced relation to the first wiper;
wherein the second wiper overlaps the first wiper in an axial direction so that the outer surfaces of the wipers portions together extend continuously along the axial length of the body member before the plug is inserted in the casing; and
wherein the wipers deflect into substantially cylindrical, wiping engagement with an inner surface of the casing when the plug is inserted in the casing.

Dependent claims 90-91, 94-97, 99-103, and 105-108 incorporate the limitations of claims 92, 93, 98, and 104 respectively, and, as such, differ from the previous claims 1-51.

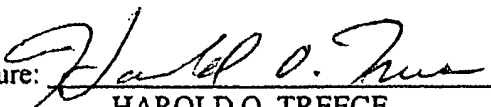
Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and is not covered by a prior oath/declaration submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

Please direct all communication about the application to the address associated with:

Customer Number 000027683

Warren B. Kice
Haynes and Boone, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202
Tele: 214-651-5334

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Signature: 
HAROLD O. TREECE
213 Ridgecrest Drive
Duncan, OK 73533

Date: 9-19-06